



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant : Mary Ann Caneba
Appn. No. : 09/858,012
Filed : May 14, 2001
Title : Customizing Pack Carrier
Group./A.U. : 3727
Examiner : Stephen Cronin

3727
#12/Response
hwjuga
S/2003

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3/J0

Mailed: May 12, 2003

At: Houghton, Michigan 49931

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

This is a response to the office communication sent 4/21/03.

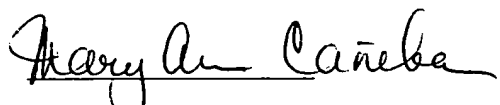
The applicant has not rescinded on the election of Invention I comprising of claims classified under class 280, subclass 727+. A comparison of the original claims 1 to 75 and the amended claims 101 to 142 will reveal that claims 101 to 124 are derived from the original Group I claims 1 to 26 amended to overcome rejection based on 35 USC 112; Claim 125 is a method claim; Claims 126 to 142 are derived from original claims 27 to 75 that may have originally belonged to the other non-elected inventions but have, however, been narrowed down in order to fit within the same class as the other claims 1 to 26. This was argued in further detail in the Remarks/Arguments section (particularly #1 and #2) of the response sent 03/31/03 (see attached). This was also pointed out in the Remarks/Arguments section of the response sent 10/22/02. No further argument was raised regarding the inclusion of the original claims 1 to 26 because that was already mutually understood to be the elected invention and therefore are included in the new group of claims 101 to 142. Given that, the Remarks/Arguments section (#4

to #7) of the 03/31/03 response argues why claim 101 (derived from claim 1) as well as the rest of the claims are patentable as written.

Based on the above explanation, the applicant respectfully requests the examiner to review the applicant's past responses further in their entirety and offer constructive assistance and suggestions pursuant to M.P.E.P. 706.03(d) and 707.07(j) so that this invention can be placed in a condition of allowance as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very respectfully,



Mary Ann N. Caneba (applicant, pro se)

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on the date below:

Date: 05/12/03

Inventor's Signature 